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1962/10/17

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COUNCIL
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Origin
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ACTION: Ambassador, PARIS TOPOL 532 PRIORITY

INFO: Ambassador, ANKARA (by pouch)
Ambassador, ATHENS
Ambassador, BONN
Ambassador, BRUSSELS
Ambassador, COPENHAGEN
Ambassador, LISBON
Ambassador, LONDON 2187
Ambassador, LUXEMBOURG (by pouch)
Ambassador, MOSCOW
Ambassador, OSLO
Ambassador, OTTAWA
Ambassador, REYKIAVIK (by pouch) 477
Ambassador, ROME
Ambassador, STOCKHOLM
Ambassador, THE HAGUE

Deliver Farley 8 A.M. October 18.

Ref: Depcirtel 626.

POLTO 451. POLAD Agenda. Item III.

Responses of NATO govts to bilateral US approaches indicate that,

while there will be sympathy US proposal and considerable positive support, it may be difficult to obtain unequivocal POLAD position in favor outright rejection any Soviet overflight or landing requests for aircraft destined Cuba. Key countries from practical viewpoint are UK and Canada through which flights so far performed. [Reactions UK and Canada indicate they may be willing find means effectively thwart Soviet flights without giving appearance acting arbitrarily or under pressure from US. However, UK and Canada presumably more likely take effective action if other NATO govts express positive

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BNA - Mr. Bergeson
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TRC - Mr. Bolster

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support US proposal.

Accordingly US rep should endeavor call forth as much support for US proposal as possible with aim of obtaining POLAD agreement as set forth reftel or agreement that: QUOTE member countries will take appropriate steps to assure Soviets not able overfly or stop their territory on flights destined Cuba UNQUOTE. If agreement to neither possible, USRO should report views expressed with its recommendations re further action.

If reps raise question of effect of denial Soviet requests on bilateral civil air transport relations with USSR, Department believes most cogent reply that contained reftel. We consider retaliation argument largely smoke screen without to our knowledge basis in actual past experience. It clearly evident present bilateral air transport relations with USSR based on full reciprocity, granting overflight rights to Soviets for Cuban flights, as in case UK (see London's 227 to Paris), has not rpt not resulted in reciprocity, e.g., permission for British aircraft overfly USSR to third countries.

END.

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